The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1912, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

VOL. 12. NO. 19. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1922. WHOLE NO. 590.

PUBLIC FAILED TO OBSERVE DUTY; FORFEITS CLAIM TO ITS "RIGHTS"

Birmingham, Ala., July 29.—If the public did its duty there would be no strike; because it did not it should not talk about its "rights," declared Congressman Huddleston at a mass meeting held under the auspices of striking railroad shop men in this city.

"The railroad workers," said the congressman, "owe the public the duty to keep the trains running, but this duty is conditioned upon the public seeing to it that the workers are protected from oppression in connection with their jobs.

"The public having failed to perform its obligation to the workers in this respect, they were released from their duty to operate the trains and were driven into this strike for their own protection; the public having failed to protect them, they were forced to defend themselves by the only means they had, that is, a strike.

"The public has not seemed to care what the railroad managers did, so long as it was done to workers. By the public's indifference to the wrongs committed upon the workers, it has forced them to strike in their own defense. The public has forfeited its right to have the trains continued to run. Because of its neglect and indifference the public no longer has the right to insist that the workers should stick to their jobs. It has left the workers to fight their own battles; it cannot complain of the essential incidents to the struggle which it has allowed to come on."

"Mail Interference" Yarns Have Ceased

Washington, July 29.—In a speech in this city P. J. Conlon, vice president of the International Association of Machinists, showed why newspapers no longer print wild yarns of mail interference by striking shop men. The trade unionist said:

"An effort was made to put us in the light of opposing the government and interfering with the transportation of the mails. There was talk of mobilizing a fleet of trucks to carry the mails, and when we responded, 'Bring on the trucks and we will help put them in condition, and get the mail issue out of the affair,' talk of this nature ceased."

Vice President Conlon's statement is corroborated by this acknowledgement in the Washington Post that the "mail interference" stories were attempts to discredit the shop men:

"While train service has slackened up at points Postmaster General Work is understood to have informed the president at the cabinet meeting yesterday that the movement of the mail had not been materially interfered with by the strike."

Fears Well Founded; Rail Act One-Sided

Chicago, July 29.—"Railroad employes were never in favor of the transportation act, but, at the worst, they assumed that the act intended that the humblest railroad worker should receive a wage which would permit his living and rearing a family according to modest standards of health and decency, and employes in the grades above would receive differentials for skill, hazard and responsibility," says the Railway Employes' Department, A. F. of L., in one of its latest strike bulletins.

"At the worst they never suspected that the railroad labor board could ever fix wages for any group which would not permit living at even a bare subsistence level. It was under these beliefs that the employes were willing to give the act a trial, and have now going along under it for a matter of two years."

WOULD CONTROL UNIONS.

London, England, July 29.—British trade unions are opposing a pending bill which would forbid the use of trade union funds for political purposes. When the bill was introduced the unionists were inclined to make light of it, but are now waking up to the fact that that policy is what its friends are hoping for. Some trade unionists insist that the government "would not dare" pass such a bill, but far-sighted workers suggest prophecy be abandoned, and the bill be attacked.

The bill provides that when a trade union declares for political action those members who desire to contribute to the political fund must indicate in writing, every 12 months, their desire to do so. The bill also makes complicated provisions regarding the manner in which trade unions shall conduct themselves before they can take effective political action.

COSSACKS STOP MEETING.

Denver, July 29.—Coal miners from the northern coal fields called on Governor Shoup to inquire on what authority state rangers can stop a meeting of workers. The miners say that a meeting at Superior was surrounded by machine guns and the men were forced to disperse under threats of being fired upon. The officer in command of the soldiers said he received orders from General Hamrock, head of the rangers.

The governor evaded direct questions regarding the authority of the cossacks, but he promised to investigate. Hamrock was in control of the troops when they shot up Ludlow, and women and children were killed and burned to death.

HUGE AUTO PROFITS.

New York, July 29.—For the three months ended June 30 last the Chandler motor car company reports clear profits of $927,144, after allowing for all expenses, including charges and taxes.

In the first three months of the year net profits were $850,000. This means that after the ingenuity of skilled accountants in disposing of profits has been exhausted the company announces that clear profits for the first six months of the year are $1,777,144.

REFUSE WAGE CUT.

New York, July 29.—The Motion Picture Operators' union has rejected a wage cut of 10 per cent, proposed by the theater owners' chamber of commerce, representing 109 theaters. The contract between the two parties expires next September, and the operators have started to build up a strong treasury by assessing themselves 15 per cent of their wages.

ALLEN WANTS COURT TO O. K. GAG ORDER

Topeka, Kan., July 29.—Another act in Governor Allen's comic opera, known as the court of industrial relations, was staged when William Allen White, editor of the Emporia Gazette, was arrested because he refused to remove a placard which announced his sympathy with the striking railroad shop men. Editor White declared that the order not to post these placards is an infringement on free speech. The trial, it is stated, will take place next October.

With practically every coal miner in the state and thousands of shop men on strike in defiance of law, and trade unionists openly sympathizing with these movements, Allen's law has struck rough weather. Every effort is being made by the governor and his assistants to minimize Editor White's refusal to obey the order that no sympathetic placards be posted, and the case is being handled most gingerly, as compared with the bombast that it was hoped would scare wage workers when the law was enacted.

The governor declares that no expressions of sympathy with the strikers will be permitted to be posted in the state, but he will first make a friendly test of Editor White's action. In a public statement the governor said he believed Mr. White when he said he was not fighting the industrial court act.

"Mr. White helped to frame this law, and his attitude in the past has been helpful," said the governor.

COMPANY "UNION" TALK NOT WELCOME

Washington, July 29.—Bull-in-the-china shop methods of L. F. Loree, president of the Delaware & Hudson railroad, who has declared for company "unions," is not relished by the national administration.

A semi-official spokesman for the administration states in a local newspaper that Loree's statement is "regarded in official quarters here as a most unfortunate utterance at this time."

Attention is called to the last three words of the above statement.

OWNERS USE PUBLICITY.

New York, July 29.—"The present anthracite suspension is the most effective in the history of our organization," says the anthracite miners' general scale committee, which declares that "the publicity agents of the operators are now engaged in a tremendous propaganda movement against the mine workers' organization."

RAILROAD NET EARNINGS.

New York, July 29.—The railroads' poverty plea does not harmonize with this recent statement by the Wall Street Journal:

"Railroad net earnings for May are far ahead of last year. Total for 53 roads so far reported shows $42,779,753, compared with $24,599,276 in 1921, an increase of 77.9 per cent. This would indicate an aggregate net for all class 1 roads of approximately $65,600,000, equivalent to a return of 4.2 per cent on the commission's tentative valuation of $18,900,000,000."

It is shown that the Pennsylvania railroad, foremost anti-unionist among the rail systems of the country, had an operating deficit of $38,153,672 in 1920, but for the first six months of 1922 the railroad shows a net operating income of $28,535,839. The Erie railroad, with a deficit in 1920 of $6,824.29, shows a net operating income of $2,642,476 for the first six months of 1922.

The Wall Street Journal also states that "net operating income of the Northern Pacific railroad increased $1,200,652, and of the Great Northern $2,510,712 over that of 1921."

SEAMEN'S STRIKE VOTED.

Cleveland, Ohio, July 29.—To enforce an eight-hour day and the union rate of wages, organized seamen in this city have declared for a strike by a vote of 867 to 2. The cooks and stewards, another affiliate of the International Seamen's Union of America, favored a strike for the same reason by a vote of 504 to 7.

The steel trust dominates the lake carriers. Several hundred vessels are controlled directly by the Pittsburgh steamship company, a steel trust unit. As the steel trust owns the iron ore at the head of the great lakes cargoes are rarely given to independent vessel owners unless they conform with the trust's labor policy. This power, the seamen show, can only be broken by the workers organizing.

LIVING COSTS GO UP.

Washington, July 29.—While railroad managers and coal owners are attempting to enforce wage cuts, food prices are going up, according to the United States bureau of labor statistics. It is stated that there was an increase of 1 per cent in the retail cost of food to the average family in June, as compared with May. The largest increases during this period were: Potatoes, 29 per cent; navy beans, 6 per cent; sugar, 5 per cent; round steak, corn meal and oranges, 3 per cent; sirloin steak, chuck roast, bacon and strictly fresh eggs, 2 per cent.

SHIP SUBSIDY PLAN IS AGAIN EXPOSED

Washington, July 29.—The ship subsidy, if passed, would in all probability find its way into the pockets of the bankers and brokers and insurance companies—all interested in foreign shipping and the latter channel leading directly into foreign lands," declared Senator Fletcher of Florida, in a scathing attack on the subsidy proposal.

"Most likely," he said, "this is what would happen: The money to buy the ships and operate them would be furnished by the banks and through brokers who would 'rake off' the direct subsidy. Whatever was left, if any, the insurance combine would get."

The Florida lawmaker shattered the claim of subsidy advocates that this act is necessary to reimburse ship owners who are forced to pay excessive wages to American seamen.

"The testimony," said Senator Fletcher, "showed the difference in wage cost and subsistence cost, the difference in cost of operation between vessels of the United States and foreign vessels, was largely a myth, and if there was a negligible quantity, when considered along with the whole enterprise. In other words, the small percentage of the difference would cut no material figure in calculating the profit and loss of each ship. The testimony of Mr. Furuseth and Mr. Philip Mason (ship owner) and others established that clearly.

"The truth is American seamen's wages are lower than Canada and on a level with British. The only maritime power where American wages are substantially higher is that of the Japanese. Crews have been reduced by order of the shipping board until in some classes of ships the American advantage is 50 per cent."

Daugherty "Sees Things;" Anti-Unionists Get Hint

Washington, July 29.—Attorney General Daugherty is quoted in the public press as "unofficially" declaring his belief in the existence of a "conspired or inspired" relationship between the coal and railroad strikes, but is yet unable to obtain sufficient proof to begin legal proceedings against the conspirators.

While this statement is a sad commentary on the attorney general's secret service system, headed by that "great" detective, William J. Burns, the statement is sufficient for the subsidized press, citizen's alliance press agents and publicity bureaus of manufacturers' associations.

These institutions will now proceed to manufacture sentiment along the lines suggested. This sentiment can then be capitalized if it is necessary to use the mailed fist.

610,000 MINERS ON STRIKE.

Washington, July 29.—Following a survey of the coal industry, the department of labor announces that there are 610,000 miners on strike and 185,000 miners at work. Listed with the latter are 10,000 union pump men and firemen who have remained at work to keep the properties from being destroyed by water flooding the mines.

A significant part of the report is the statement that of 12,000 Kansas miners, but 1,000 are working. This is the state, it will be remembered, that prevents strikes by law. Colorado, also, has a law which outlaws strikes under certain conditions, but only 4,000 of the 10,000 miners before the strike was called are working.

Cossack-ridden Pennsylvania reports that not a man of the 155,000 anthracite miners are working, and but 20,000 of the 175,000 bituminous men are working.

Despite the terroristic policy of West Virginia coal owners, and the aid given them by the state, there are 40,000 of the 90,000 coal miners on strike.

The states that report a 100 per cent strike are: Illinois, 90,000 out; Ohio, 50,000 out; Indiana, 30,000 out; Iowa, 15,000 out; Montana, 5,000 out; Michigan, 2,000 out.

Wyoming reports 7,000 on strike while 8,000 were employed before the strike. The same situation is reported by Virginia, Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and several other states.

UNIONISTS TO MEET.

Harrisburg, Pa., July 29.—The Pennsylvania state federation of labor has issued a call for a preliminary conference in this city on August 2 to consider action relative to constitutional rights which have been abridged in the coal and railroad strikes in this state.

"Political action, relative to candidates for public office, who either condone such methods or are indifferent to them, will also be outlined," the call said.

"The stage is being set for a repetition, in an even more vicious form, of the reign of terror, replete with attacks upon women and children, that characterized the steel strike," says the call. "Free speech and free assemblage, the only means by which organized labor can continue to exercise its control over its membership, have been abridged by the action of Governor Sproul in the newly organized communities."

MINING WITHOUT PROFIT.

St. Louis, Mo., July 29.—Mining coal without profit and at prices to be fixed by the government is the strike solution forwarded to Washington by I. R. Kelso, president of the federation of Missouri commercial clubs.

"I am voicing the sentiments of consumers generally as well as the experience of a large number of utilities," said Mr. Kelso, "when I say that the attempt of Secretary Hoover to fix prices failed to prevent coal profiteering. The federal government should not be a party to any plan calculated merely to serve the coal owners in their attempt to limit the output by operating a small number of mines in localities to be designated by the coal owners under the protection of troops and the American flag without regulation of coal prices to be charged the consumer."

HOW OPINION IS MOLDED TO AID PACKERS' TRUST

The Bunk.

"In the 'big five' packers' strike of last winter the employes' represeptatives—four out of five of whom, by the way, wore the button of the striking union—dispensed with the outside arbitration of Judge Alschuler in favor of conference and arbitration within the industry, and then accepted the wage cut which the condition of the industry required."—New York Times, June 29.

The Facts.

Washington, July 29.—The above statement by the New York Times was forwarded to Dennis Lane, secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, by Frank Morrison, secretary of the A. F. of L. Replying to the A. F. of L. official, Secretary Lane said:

"The packers' company 'union' is composed of three units, as for example: Ten representatives of the employes (presumably to have been chosen by the employes). These comprise one unit.

"Ten to represent the management (as the packers term to choose it). These 10 are chosen by the management and usually is composed of superintendents, foremen, time-keepers, etc. These comprise the second unit.

"The third unit is the president of the company.

"All differences are originally put to the first two units mentioned at a joint session, and the unit rule prevails when voting. So you see, there could be as many as four in the employes' unit that had been members of the union, and even though their individual vote would be against a proposal, if the other six voted with the unit that represents the management, it would be a vote in favor of the management and declared unanimous, and the individual vote of the four union men would be lost and not heard of, because the unit they were a part of would be recorded as being favorable to the matter in question, even though the matter in question be a clear-cut anti-union proposition.

"In case units No. 1 and No. 2, which purport to represent the employes and management, fail to vote unanimously on any question, it may then be put to the president of the company for a decision.

"The packers were very careful to see to it that they got a few members of the union identified with their 'company representation' plan. But for the most part the selection of the 'representatives' was brought about through the recommendation of the plant superintendent, after conference with the division superintendents and foremen.

"The sum and substance of the whole proposition was a cut and dried program by which they could hand-pick a few dupes that would pretend to represent the sentiments of the employes.

"But the workers in this industry have no one to blame for their predicament but themselves, as they were in a position to get for themselves most anything reasonable until they fell for the propaganda circulated by the packers through their emissaries that weaned the workers away from their own organization. When the packers felt satisfied that the propagandists had accomplished their purpose, then they launched their company 'union.'"

Stands With A. F. of L. Non-Partisan Policy

Bremerton, Wash., July 29.—By a vote of nearly three to one the state federation of labor declared in favor of the A. F. of L. non-partisan political policy. The vote means separation from the Farmer-Labor party which the state federation helped to organize two years ago.

Spokesmen for the Farmer-Labor party declared that their defeat "does not mean that there is no co-operation possible." All delegates were agreed on the defeat of Miles Poindexter, United States senator from this state, whose main efforts since the armistice has been haranguing the senate against organized labor.

In an address to the convention A. S. Goss, master of the state grange, declared that there is a well organized campaign under way by reactionary interests to alienate the farmer and the city worker.

THEATER HORROR RECALLED.

Washington, July 29.—Indictments against five persons in connection with the Knickerbocker theater disaster last January, in which 97 lives were lost, was dismissed by the District of Columbia supreme court. The indictments charged manslaughter against the architect of the theater, the iron work contractor, cement contractor, building inspector and a foreman.

The theory of the indictment is that each of the five men undertook a gigantic work and that each was required to know and to see that the others properly performed his portion of the task. The court held that the general charge of failure and neglect set out in the indictment was not sufficient.

EXTEND AGREEMENTS.

Pressmen's Home, Tenn., July 29.—Officers of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' union report that a number of web pressmen's unions are negotiating new agreements with newspaper managers. The majority of these contracts expire September 1.

Railroad Is Model For Anti-Unionists

Philadelphia, July 29.—The industrial relations committee of the local chamber of commerce points to the Pennsylvania railroad as a model for employers who would "eliminate outside interference" when they are dealing with "their men." The railroad's company "union" is praised and the committee asks: "Why employers and employes of the coal mines cannot solve their difficulties by getting together along the same lines in their individual establishments."

The committee makes no reference to the fact that the Pennsylvania railroad's company "union" was established by a vote of less than 11 per cent of the workers, and that that road attempted to use the judiciary of the United States to stop a censure by the railroad labor board for ignoring its order to hold a fair election.

The committee also favors the establishment of old-age pensions, but makes no comment on the fact that certain railroads are now threatening their retired employes with loss of old-age pensions if they do not aid in breaking the shop men's strike.

PAVING CUTTERS SIGN.

Rockport, Mass., July 29.—The Paving Cutters' Union of the United States and Canada has signed a three-year agreement with the granite paving block manufacturers' association of the United States. All the New England state branches, representing one-half the union's membership, is covered. A slight reduction for piece work was accepted, but no change was made in the 44-hour week or the rate for day work and working hours.

BUILDING MATERIAL UP.

New York, July 29.—Testifying before a state-wide telephone inquiry, conducted by the public service commission, building contractors declared that building material costs are increasing. Although there was a noticeable decline in prices in the latter part of 1921, prices have risen this year and no immediate decline is looked for.

RAILROAD'S COMPANY "UNION" MAY GET DREADED PUBLICITY

Chicago, July 29.—The federal court of appeals has set aside Federal Judge Page's injunction, which permanently enjoined the railroad labor board from censuring the Pennsylvania railroad for ignoring an order by the board.

General Atterbury, vice president of the road, and generalissimo of the road's union-smashing department, announces that the case will be appealed to the United States supreme court.

The decision is the culmination of the road's installation of a company "union," announced in May, last year. The company prepared a ballot which the organized shop men asked to be changed so that employes could vote for an organization if they so desired. This request was denied by the company.

The unionists carried the case to the railroad labor board, where the railroad admitted that the men elected by the company "union" to negotiate rules for all the workers were elected by 3,480 men out of 33,104 entitled to vote, exclusive of the shops at Altoona, Pa.

"In other words," said the railroad labor board, "only 10.5 per cent of these employes are represented in these negotiations and 89.5 per cent are virtually disfranchised."

The law plainly provides, said the board, that the employes shall "designate and authorize" their representatives, and that the railroad had no more right to undertake to assume control of the selection of the representatives of the employes than the employes would have to supervise the naming of the representatives of the railroad.

"In this sophisticated land of popular elections no political party would submit to having its primary held and managed by the opposing party."

The board invalidated the election and ordered a new ballot. A sample ballot was prepared by the board, which permitted employes to even vote for an organization dual to the A. F. of L. The railroad ignored this decision, made July 26, 1921, and the following December the board prepared a censure of the railroad. Before the censure was made public, however, the railroad secured a temporary injunction last December from Federal Judge Landis, now baseball commissioner. This injunction prohibited the censure being made public until the case was heard.

Last April the case was hear before Federal Judge Page, who held for the railroad and made the injunction permanent. On appeal, the labor board is now sustained by the circuit court of appeals, which rules, in effect, that a government board actually has the power to publicly criticise the Pennsylvania railroad.

COAL NOT PRODUCED BY ENGINES OF WAR

New York, July 29.—Not a single union miner has returned to work by "the assembling and parading of engines of war," said John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, in proposing a joint conference with the coal owners to settle the strike.

The miners' executive declared a willingness to meet coal owners as has been done for a quarter of a century, but he insisted that a national strike cannot be ended through state or district settlements.

President Lewis characterized the presence of state troops in districts as "a menace to domestic tranquility" and repugnant to American ideals.

In asserting that this policy has failed to bring about an increase in coal production, President Lewis said: "It must now be obvious to all that American miners will not be driven back to work at starvation wages and under non-union conditions by any fanfare of trumpets or vain military display.

"The assembling and parading of engines of war to awe American citizens who are merely exercising their industrial and social status as citizens of the republic would be a national farce if it did not possess the elements of tragedy."

Injunction Judge Will Haunt Backer

Washington, July 29.—"There are more primaries to come," was the significant comment by President Gompers on the defeat of Congressman Jeffries, of Nebraska, for the nomination for United States senator. In referring to other primaries, the A. F. of L. executive said:

"There is to be one soon in West Virginia. Senator Sutherland will seek renomination in that state. I am confident that if the people of that state understand that Sutherland was instrumental in securing the appointment of Judge McClintic, whose injunctions against the miners have been most sweeping, they will retire Mr. Sutherland.

"The primaries have not failed thus far to show the revulsion of the people against old guard tactics. This might, with profit, be borne in mind while the government is embarking upon a course of repression and upon a course of military dictatorship for the purpose of beating down workers who have a just and burning grievance."

NERVY CLAIM TO JUDGE.

Atlanta, Ga., July 29.—In securing a temporary injunction against railroad shop men from Federal Judge Sibley, attorneys for the railroads assured the court that "the defendants are now in a conspiracy to nullify the lawful activities and orders of a branch of the United State government—the railroad labor board."

Judge Sibley might well have replied that if that is true the railroads showed them how it could be done. And the court would speak authoritatively. He could cite the case of the A., B. & A. railroad, which cut wages over a year ago. The railroad labor board ordered the management to reinstate wages and then comply with the law if it would reduce wages. The road did reinstate wages and then had an obliging trust company ask Judge Sibley to appoint a receiver. The court complied, and appointed Colonel Bugg after that individual resigned his position as president of the road.

The wage cut was then put into effect and Judge Sibley notified the railroad labor board to keep hands off. Since then the employes have been on strike against this "conspiracy to nullify the lawful activities of a branch of the United States government—the railroad labor board."

FAVORS COMPANY "UNION."

New York, July 29.—The majority of eastern railroads favor company "unions," according to L. F. Loree, president of the Delaware & Hudson railroad and chairman of the eastern presidents' conference. This policy, Mr. Loree said, is in line with the plan suggested by the railroad labor board, which stated, on July 3, that the railroads should proceed to organize "their men" into new "unions."

President Loree is one of the bitterest opponents of collective bargaining in this country. He was a leading figure in the employers' group at the industrial conference called by President Wilson, and which broke on the question of collective bargaining and the right of workers to select their own representatives.

During the war he was a member of the war labor board for a short period.

UNITY OUR SOLE DEFENSE.

St. Louis, Mo., July 29.—"With labor unorganized and relying solely upon the justice of employers and the so-called public, no individual or no body would care about labor," says the Railroad Telegrapher.

"Only as labor talks up for itself, organizes in solid phalanx for protection against imposition and wrong, is the 'public' concerned about labor. Only as labor wages its own battle do statesmen and politicians notice it. It is idle to rely upon any force, either sympathetic or sentimental, to help labor, when it is not trying to help itself.

"As we maintain our protective agency, the union, can we look for even a small quantity of justice being granted us."

BLACK LEG KILLS ENGINEER.

Wilmington, N. C., July 29.—H. J. Southwell, member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, was shot to death by H. H. Dallas, assistant yardmaster of the railroad at this point. The men had words over the strike the day before, and when Southwell stepped off his engine Dallas drew a revolver and fired. Only the cool headedness of striking shop men prevented the murderer from being mobbed.

INDUSTRIAL HISTORY BEING MADE BY RAILROAD-COAL MINE STRIKERS

Washington, July 29.—With the movement of troops, together with well advertised conferences by public officials, pronunciamentos by the government, emergency control of coal and a pooling of railroad equipment, a man from Mars would believe this old U. S. A. was surrounded by foes.

Instead, all the trumpery and noise is caused by an attempt to break the nation-wide movement of coal and railroad workers to secure a living wage.

Every effort is being made by the government and employers to break these strikes, but no attempt is made to settle them.

The contract between miners and central competitive field coal owners has been entirely overlooked by those who would apply force to drive these employes back to the mines. This contract was underwritten by the government and provided that at its expiration (March 31, 1922) both parties should meet to arrange for a new contract. No mention is made of this contract by those who are hurling proclamations, troops, injunctions and misleading propaganda at the miners.

The railroad shop men are victims of the same methods, and the rail managers, with an impudence that can only come from United States treasury raiders, declare that the railroad strike is not against them, but against the government.

The strikes are nation-wide, reaching from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the great lakes to the gulf. Approximately 1,000,000 men are involved, yet there has been, comparatively speaking, no violence, despite detectives and agents provocatuer.

Nothing in the world's trade union history can compare with the large area covered, and the order maintained by these million workers, who are presenting a marvelous exhibition of solidarity and discipline.

The strikes have demolished the anti-union campaign so ceaselessly waged since the armistice. The silence of these anti-union elements indicate their bewilderment at this solidarity, which has been so unexpected by them.

Another pet theory of anti-unionists that has been demolished is the cry that "free men" will work if assured protection. Troops are now overrunning western Pennsylvania, but despite a profusion of soldiers, American flags and blessings from the White House, the union miners have not returned to work.

The exposure of this pet claim of anti-unionists is one of the hardest smashes they have received.

FORCED ARBITRATION DOESN'T STOP STRIKES

Melbourne, Australia, July 29.—The wage reduction award against sheep shearers and other pastoral workers by Justice Powers of the federal arbitration court has resulted in a strike of these workers. Trade unionists charge the court with simplicity because he fails to see that employers swell the unemployed list "in the same way," writes one worker, "as the press and parliamentarians took advantage of your simple-mindedness during the war by using the 'patriotic' cry to mold your opinions to prevent the workers from getting justice."

In an open letter to Justice Powers one trade unionist says:

"It appears that if employers desire to obtain lower wages or an increase in hours, all that is necessary for them to do is to dismiss some thousands of workmen, and then tell the court that present wages and conditions have thrown thousands of artisans out of employment. Your court then takes cognizance and the result is lower wages.

"If a shearer refuses to accept the award of the court the employers apply for an injunction against the Australian Workers' union for striking against the decision. If the shearer refuses to take the wages decided upon by the court, he breaks the law. If the employer closes down his establishment, or dismisses thousands of employes, it is no offense against the court.

"It is perfectly legal for the employer to dismiss the workmen, or to refuse to employ others, but if the workman refuses to work at rates which he considers unfair, he is, according to the rules of your court, a law breaker."

MINGOIZING COAL FIELDS.

Baltimore, July 29.—"We hardly think that Mr. Harding intends to Mingoize the whole of the central competitive field," says the Evening Sun in a leading editorial on the president's move to open the mines.

"The president could doubtless order the mines opened, and then see that there were sufficient soldiers and machine guns and barbed wire entanglements and all the rest of it to keep the strikers cowed. Then, if the operators could find the workers, and it were possible to keep them contented and working, we might conceivably get coal.

"We submit that such a course, which is apparently that which is proposed to Mr. Harding and even pressed upon him, does not bear the ear marks of very profound statesmanship.

"We should have learned by this time that battles settle very little. And that if they settle one question, they open up others vastly greater and more dangerous.

"Mingo county has had martial law longer than we like to remember, and Mingo county is now one of the sore spots of the country.

"Before adopting the advice of the ever-present and ever-tempting fire eaters, let Mr. Harding look again at Mingo and ask himself what has been accomplished there."

FORD INVOLVED IN STRIKE.

Springfield, Mass., July 29.—Henry Ford, flivver manufacturer, was designated "a nut" by counsel for the Moore drop forge plant which does $2,000,000 worth of business annually for the auto man. For over a year organized blacksmiths have waged a strike against the drop forge plant. The central labor union has caused huge petitions to be sent to Ford requesting that he aid the unionists. To date he has not complied and the drop forge plant started injunction proceedings against the central labor union, which is charged with "interfering with the business" of the company.

The company is trying to enforce an individual contract on its employes.

SPROUL PRAISES COSSACKS.

Harrisburg, Pa., July 29.—In urging citizens to "lend a hand" in breaking the miners' strike, Governor Sproul made this reference to Pennsylvania's cossacks, whose record for clubbing strikers and terrorizing women and children is unequalled:

"The state, through its state police, whose record for the just and vigorous enforcement of the laws of the commonwealth and the preservation of the rights of the people, will be prepared at all times to assist the local authorities in enforcing the laws."

BANDITS AND BIG BIZ TOGETHER IN MEXICO

Washington, July 29.—In urging recognition of Mexico by the United States, Senator Ladd, of North Dakota, said it was a curious coincident that "these well press-agented outbreaks of banditry" in Mexico should only occur where the American oil companies are located and where, as a matter of official record, former bandit chiefs have been in their pay."

"It is significant," he continued, "that these affairs should be precipitated just as financial arrangements between the Mexican government and a group of international bankers were on the eve of consummation in New York city.

"Most unprejudiced observers will decide that these 'kidnapings' have the appearance of being staged according to a prearranged plan at the very moment best calculated to embarrass the Mexican government in its negotiations looking toward the funding of its debt, and practically all the metropolitan newspapers of the United States have taken precisely this view of the situation.

"Indeed, it is doubtful whether some of these so-called 'kidnapings' had any actual existence except in the mind of subsidized press agents; but admitting that bandits, whether in the pay of American oil companies or otherwise, did commit the outrages charged to them, it cannot be denied that President Obregon acted with great diligence in immediately dispatching a large force of federal troops to the district.

"In view of the admitted facts that American oil interests have paid stipulated sums to bandits operating in the Tampico region, and that Thomas F. Lee, secretary of the national association for the protection of American rights in Mexico, endeavored to foment a revolution in Mexico only a year ago, it is safe to assume that President Obregon was correct when he characterized the recent Tampico 'kidnaping' as the inspiration of influences to disturb public opinion in the United States."

EDUCATION URGED.

Crookston, Minn., July 29.—Educational demands featured the fortieth annual convention of the Minnesota state federation of labor in this city. Among the resolutions adopted were:

Instructing officers and delegates to endeavor to have school boards and school authorities adopt as part of the school curriculum courses of study in government and political and social institutions.

Providing for the establishment of a committee on education in all central bodies to bring the labor movement into closer touch with the public schools.

Calling on union men and women to assist in the education of the young people along trade union lines and particularly the sons and daughters of organized labor.

The convention also called attention to the growing menace due to the usurpation of the supreme court and urged activity to amend the constitution to restrict the powers of the court.

EMPLOYMENT GAINS.

Washington, July 29.—Employment is on the increase, according to the bureau of labor statistics. The report is for June, and is based on statements from representative establishments in 13 manufacturing industries. Comparing the figures of June, 1922, with those for identical establishments for June, 1921, it appears that in eight of the 13 industries there were increases in the number of persons employed, while in four there were decreases. The largest increases were 32.1 per cent in iron and steel, 30.5 per cent in car building and repairing and 21.2 per cent in automobiles. Cotton manufacturing, which is being checked by the textile strike, shows a decrease of 25.1 per cent, and silk decreased 19.7 per cent.

INVENT FOR PUBLIC GOOD.

New York, July 29.—In an appeal to the 17,000 members of the American society of mechanical engineers to foster research, Calvin W. Rice, secretary of the society, suggests that inventions be given away.

"It is unfortunate that the idea still prevails that every idea must be commercialized," said Mr. Rice. "The idea of giving away an invention for the advancement of civilization has not yet been developed."